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AVERAGE DEATH-RATE* AMONG CARD-ROOM HANDS, 1891-1905.

| Ages. | Card-room Hands. | | |
|--------------------|------------------|------------|----------|
| | 1891-95. | 1896-1900. | 1901-05. |
| 15 to 24 | 4.2 | 3.1 | 2.8 |
| 25 " 34 | 7.9 | 4.0 | 2.3 |
| 35 " 44 | 12.5 | 7.9 | 5.8 |
| 45 " 54 | 21.7 | 16.3 | 16.2 |
| 55 " 64 | 34.5 | 23.9 | 15.8 |

The rates given in the above tables are as calculated by the Medical Officer of Health. For the period 1891-1895 the trade census of 1891 was taken as the basis for the number of employees; for 1896-1900 the mean populations of the trade censuses of 1891 and 1901 were taken; and for 1901-1905 the trade census of 1901 was used as the basis for calculating the death-rates. As the Medical Officer points out, a quinquennial census is highly desirable in occupational inquiries of this kind, but he adds "it has been recommended so often by leading Medical Officers of Health throughout the country that one despairs of this important measure ever becoming law."

Comment upon the death-rates as presented in the summary tables is hardly necessary except to state that they seem to indicate quite positively "that the conditions under which operatives work in Blackburn have improved enormously, and that the death-rates among them improve continually."

For a more extended review and criticism of these reports see "The Health and Mortality of the Cotton Mill Operatives of Blackburn, England," *Medical Record*, Aug. 11, 1906.

F. S. C.

POPULATION STATISTICS.

Compendium of Censuses, State of New Jersey, 1726-1905, together with Tabulated Returns of 1905. Trenton, N.J., 1906.

In a brief compass this volume contains the aggregate population of the various municipalities of New Jersey as returned by the different censuses, State and national. The municipalities are arranged in alphabetical order by county divisions, and, as the counties are also in alphabetical order, the compendium is a very convenient

* Rates per 1,000 employees of the specified ages.

and valuable book of reference. The present name of the municipality is given, but changes of name and changes in boundary are indicated either in the body of the table or in foot-notes.

"Upon the surrender of East and West Jersey by the proprietors, Her Majesty Queen Anne appointed Lord Cornbury governor of this province, November 16, 1702, and in her letter of instructions of that date directed him to 'send an account unto us, and to our commissioners for trade and plantations, of the present numbers of planters and inhabitants,' etc. This seems to be the first enumeration of the province ordered, whether it was made is doubtful, as no records of it have yet been found, either here [Trenton] or in the record office in London. This makes the census of 1726 which was returned by Governor William Burnet to the Lords of Trade, May 9th, 1727, the first of record."

Enumerations by counties were made also in 1737, 1745, and 1784. In 1790 the first national census was taken, and in 1855 and at ten year intervals since that date the State has made enumerations of its population.

The population of the State of New Jersey as returned by the various censuses is given in the following summary:—

POPULATION OF NEW JERSEY, 1726-1905.

| Year. | Population. | Year. | Population. |
|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| 1726 | 32,442 | 1855 | 569,500 |
| 1737 | 47,369 | 1860 | 672,035 |
| 1745 | 61,403 | 1865 | 773,500 |
| 1784 | 149,435 | 1870 | 906,096 |
| 1790 | 184,139 | 1875 | 1,020,584 |
| 1800 | 211,149 | 1880 | 1,131,116 |
| 1810 | 245,562 | 1885 | 1,278,033 |
| 1820 | 277,575 | 1890 | 1,444,933 |
| 1830 | 320,779 | 1895 | 1,673,106 |
| 1840 | 373,306 | 1900 | 1,883,669 |
| 1850 | 489,555 | 1905 | 2,144,143 |

The census returns for 1905 are given for each municipality and township arranged by counties. The following facts are given for each statistical division: Number of *dwellings*; Number of *families*; *White* and *Colored* population, by sex; *Age*, with distinction of sex (under 5, 5-18, 18-21, 21-45); *Conjugal relation* (*single*, by sex; *married*, *widowed*, and *divorced*, without distinction of sex); *Nationality* (*American born*, *English*, *Irish*, *German*, *Italian*, and *All others*);

Number of persons *Naturalized*; *Occupation (Professions, Commercial pursuits, Skilled laborers, Unskilled laborers, Farmers, and All others)*; Persons who *can read*; Persons who *can write*; and Persons who *can speak English*.

The *age* classification is a faulty one, and does not lend itself readily to statistical purposes, such as the calculation of death-rates, for the reason that mortality returns are never given by such age groups as are found in this report. Obviously, several of the terms used in the classification are useless for any practical purpose without definitions, which are nowhere given. For example, we do not know what is meant by "family." The term needs to be carefully defined when used for statistical purposes. Under *occupation* the classification adopted is useless with the possible exception of "farmers." What is meant by "unskilled" and "skilled" laborers? Females are apparently included, so far as they are in gainful occupations, but the minimum age is not stated.

The census report of New Jersey for 1905 is principally useful as giving the population of the various localities with distinction of sex and color. Some of the other classifications, if properly defined, might have served a limited purpose, but, when tabulated without definition of terms, they are very likely to be misleading.

The volume is commendable as a useful and convenient summary of the population of New Jersey from the earliest reliable records to date. Other States, notably New York, could profit by the example of New Jersey in this respect. At a very considerable expense the State of New York made an enumeration of its population in 1905, but, so far as we know, the returns have not been officially published, and the only knowledge of the results which is available is in the official reports made public through the press. This is a sad commentary upon the intelligence of the legislators of the most populous and wealthy State of the Union.

F. S. C.